

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 13-15, 30-44, and 55-69 are pending. Claims 1-15, 30-44, 55-61 and 67 including the independent claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Walker (U.S. 6,110,041). Dependent claims 62-66 were rejected as being unpatentable over Walker '041 in view of Walker '163 (U.S. 6,007,163). The independent claims have been amended to variably recite a user interface configured to display a preview of a game presentation using preference selections or displaying a preview of a game presentation using preference selections. Dependent claim 12 has been cancelled. Dependent claims 13, 41, and 66 have been amended to correct minor typographical errors or comport with amendments to the independent claims. Dependent claims 68 and 69 have been added.

The language added to the independent claims is supported on pages 14 and 15 of the specification and in Figure 1A. More specifically, "user interface 50 may include a number of command buttons such as help 60, current 61, save 64, and apply 67 that allow a user of the interface 50 to execute different commands. For example, a user may be able to see the effects of game feature setting using the apply button 67. When the apply button is selected, a simulation of a game presentation using the game feature settings selected in 49 may be presented in window 68. In 68, the game simulation may allow the user to see different graphics implemented in a game presentation, hear different types of music and determine the functions of different input buttons on the gaming machine." (Page 14, line 29 - page 15, line 4).

The preview or simulation of a game presentation does not provide a game outcome, but is provided to allow a user to see the effect of game preferences selected. By contrast, Walker '041 describes a simulated game that "does not include reel controller 330, and reels 332, 334, 336. Instead, video display area 346 graphically displays simulated representations of objects contained in the selected game, such as graphical reels or playing cards. These representations are preferably animated or displayed to simulate playing of the selected game." (Column 6, lines 32-38). The simulated video described in Walker '041 is used to replace physical reels or playing cards during game play. Although Walker '041 describes simulating physical reels and playing cards through a video display, it does not disclose or suggest displaying a preview of a game presentation using preference selections.

By contrast, the independent claims of the present invention variably recite a user interface configured to display a preview of a game presentation using preference selections or displaying a preview of a game presentation using preference selections. According to various embodiments, the preview of a game presentation is provided on the preference display screen to

allow a user to see effects or preference selections in real-time before applying the effects or preference selections to an actual game of chance that provides a game outcome.

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie L. Kwan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephanie L. Kwan
Reg. No. 53,168

P.O. Box 778
Berkeley, CA 94704-0778